

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army
Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore
District

In Reply to Application Number CENAB-OP-RMS(US NAVY, PATUXENT RIVER NAS/WEST BASINMARINA/PIERS)02-64944-12

Comment Period: August 1, 2002 to September 3, 2002

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 as described below:

APPLICANT

U.S. Navy Patuxent River NAS Attn: Captain Charles C. Miller c/o Dissen & Juhn Corporation 3340 Canandaigua Road Macedon, New York 14502

LOCATION: In West Patuxent Basin off the Patuxent River, at the Naval Air Warfare Center. St. Mary's County, Maryland.

WORK: The applicant proposes, in accordance with the attached plans to remove a deteriorated walkway and floating pier marina facility; to construct a replacement fixed marina including an 8-foot by 480-foot parallel walkway with 2 8-foot by 367-foot perpendicular piers, each with an 8-foot by 74-foot "T" head, 20 4-foot by 15-foot finger piers, and 42 mooring piles extending 33 feet lateral of the pier; and an 8-foot by 367-foot perpendicular pier with an 8-foot by 94-foot "T" head, 16 4-foot by 15-foot finger piers, and 34 mooring piles extending 43 feet lateral of the pier. The 124 boatslip marina is proposed to extend no more than 500 feet channelward of the approximate mean high water shoreline.

The purpose of the work is improved navigable access

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 04-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect essential fish habitat (EFH). The project site lies in or adjacent to EFH as described under MSFCMA for Scopthalmus aquosos (windowpane flounder) juvenile and adult; Pomatomus saltatrix (blue fish) juvenile and adult; Paralicthys dentatus (summer flounder) juvenile and adult; and eggs, larvae, juvenile, and adult stages of Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum), Scomberomorus cavalla (king mackerel), Scomberomorus maculatus (spanish mackerel), and Rachycentron canadum (cobia) managed species under the MSFCMA. The project has the potential to adversely effect EFH or the species of concern by loss of spawning, nursery, forage and/or shelter habitat. The Baltimore District has determined that the adverse effects of this project would not be substantial and an abbreviated consultation will be conducted with NMFS. No mitigative measures are recommended to minimize adverse effects on EFH. This determination may be modified if additional information indicates otherwise and would change the preliminary determination.

All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Lloyd Gallatin at (410) 962-6009.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.

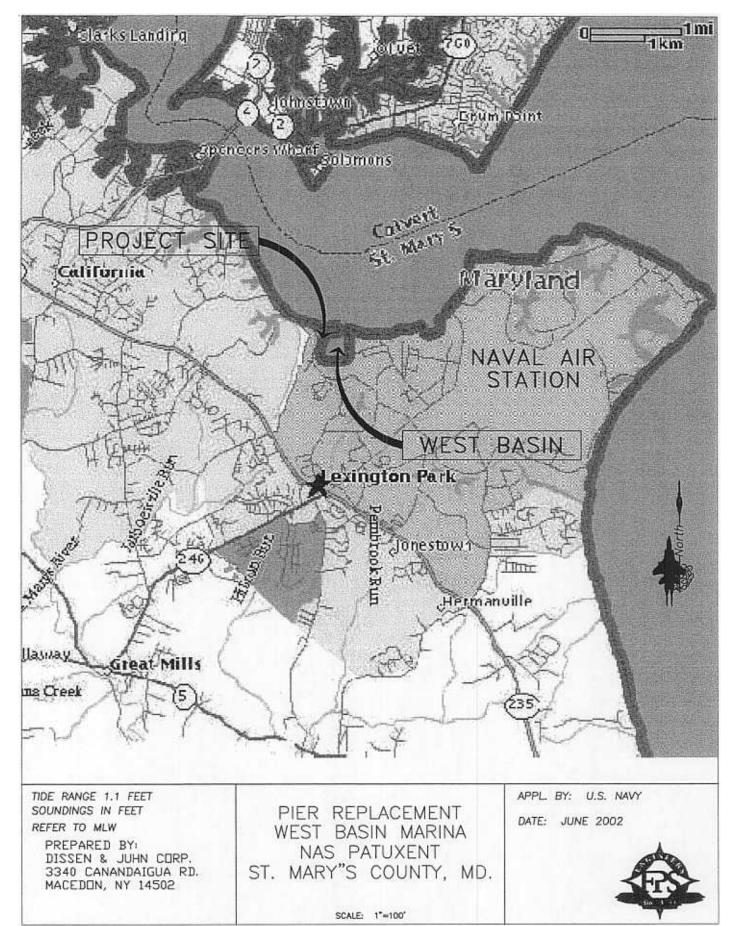
A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

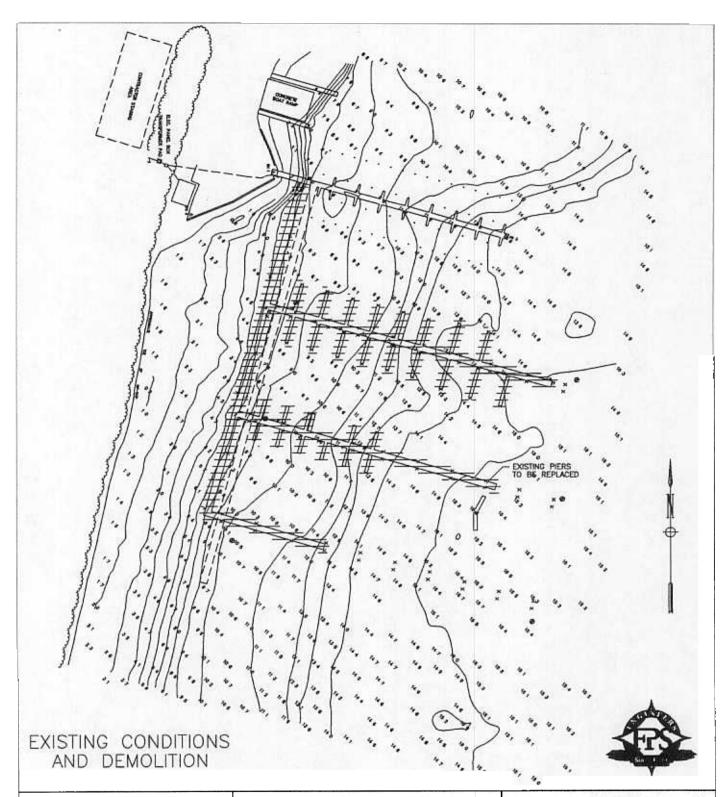
It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

WALTER WASHINGTON JR. Chief, Maryland Section Southern

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:



FILE: ATTACHMENT/SITE_PLAN
VIEW: SECT ERP 06.07.02
PCP: - 1=1



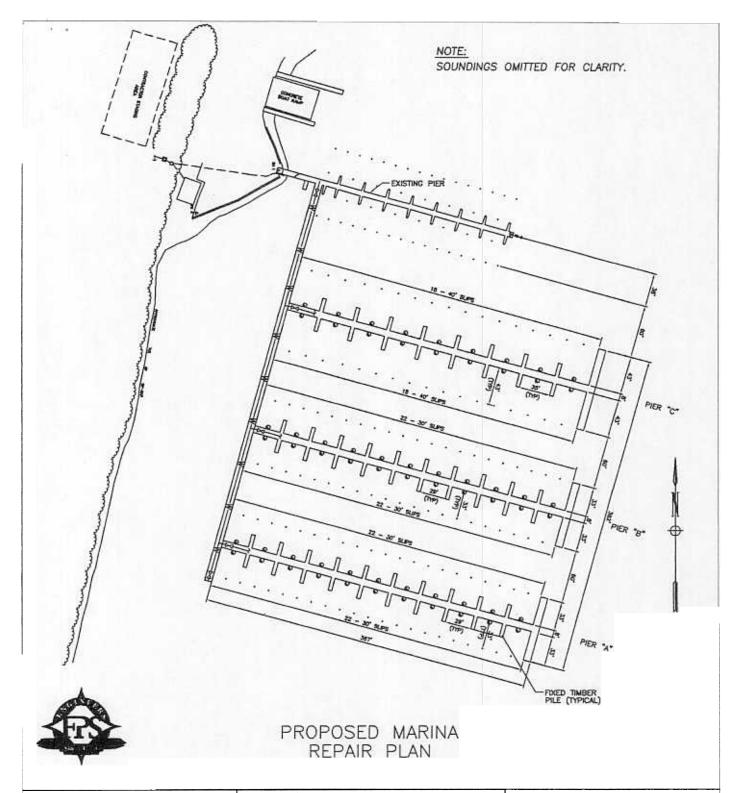
TIDE RANGE 1.1 FEET
SOUNDINGS IN FEET
REFER TO MLW
PREPARED BY:
DISSEN & JUHN CORP.
3340 CANANDAIGUA RD.
MACEDON, NY 14502

PIER REPLACEMENT WEST BASIN MARINA NAS PATUXENT ST. MARY"S COUNTY, MD.

SCALE: 1"=100"

APPL BY: U.S. NAVY

DATE: JUNE 2002



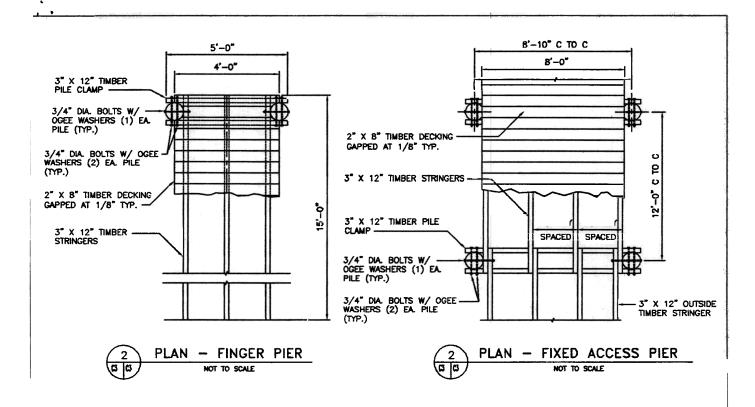
TIDE RANGE 1.1 FEET SOUNDINGS IN FEET REFER TO MLW

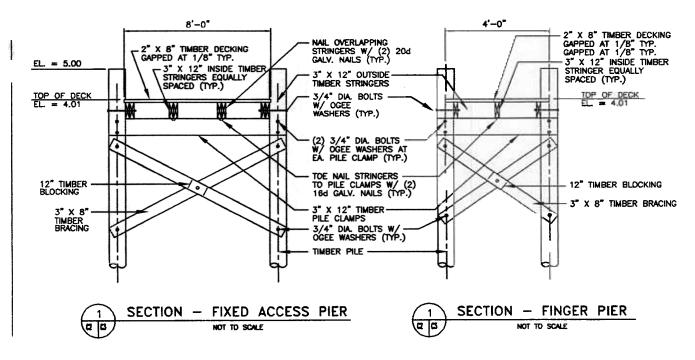
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